



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

5251 JOYCE STREET
VANCOUVER , BC , V5R 4G8
TEL: (604) 435-9611 FAX: (604) 439-9413
EMAIL : stmarys@telus.net
WEBSITE: www.stmarysvancouver.ca

Pastor's
Corner

Sunday October 05, 2008

Last Monday, I spent my day off at Third Beach in Stanley Park. The sky was pure and the tide was so low that it cleared a ridge of flat rocks extending far into the bay. I walked right to the end of it and set my beach chair on the highest and most remote flat rock. There I sat, surrounded by beauty as I listened to the Ode to Joy by Beethoven on my portable CD.

Praise filled my heart. I was reading about the archangels Gabriel, Michael and Raphael. God made me understand that praise is the very substance of eternal life and of holiness on earth. The angels in heaven don't want to do anything else as they stand in awe before the face of God. As I gazed on the natural beauty of the North Shore Mountains, the Pacific Ocean and the Sunshine Coast, I felt deeply connected with the praise of angels in heaven, contemplating the Infinite Ocean of God's Beauty, Love and Majesty.




If only I could see God's Presence shining in every event, good or bad -- in any person, beautiful or ugly -- it would already be heaven on earth. But why is it so difficult to praise God "always and everywhere"? It is because praise demands of me that I surrender my self-centeredness. To praise God, I need to let go of my worries and any constant complaining.

In today's letter of Paul to the Philippians, the apostle writes, "Do not worry about anything, but in everything let your requests be known to God by prayer and supplication with **thanksgiving**; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus".

Now St. Paul is not asking us to ignore our worries and needs. He urges us to pray about them and to do something about them. But he warns us to stop the constant negative thinking about them. He proposes us to replace the negative thoughts with positive ones.

"Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you." Fr. Pierre

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Sun. Oct. 05:** 2:00pm Youth For Christ (Church Basement)
2:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)
- Mon. Oct. 06:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)
7:00pm CWL Executive (Rectory Dining Room)
7:00pm Meditative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
7:30pm Marian Prayer Group (Rectory Library)
7:30pm Lay Apostles (Church)
- Tue. Oct. 07:** 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
6:45pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining Room)
7:30pm K of C Executive (Church Basement)
- Wed. Oct. 08:** 2:00 pm Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)
6:30pm RCIA (Church Basement)
 6:30pm PREP & Teen PREP (School)
7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Thu. Oct. 09:** 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
 7:30pm SMYAC Leaders (Rectory Dining)
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Fri. Oct. 10:** 10:00am St. Michael's Mass (7451 Sussex Ave)
NEW!! 10:30am Bible Sharing for Moms (Rectory Bsmt.)
3:00pm & 6:15pm Divine Mercy (Church)
 7:00pm Mass followed by Adoration (Church)
7:40pm Healing Prayer (Crying Room/Sacristy)
9:15pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Oct. 11:** 12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Library)
3:30pm Legion of Mary (Church Basement)
6:30pm CFC-Christian Life Program (School Gym)
7:00pm CFC - FFL (Church Basement)
- Sun. Oct. 12:** 1:00pm Handmaids of the Lord (School Gym)
2:30pm CFC General Meeting (Church Basement)
2:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
5:00pm Youth & Young Adults Mass (Church)

PARISH NEWS

PROJECT ADVANCE UPDATE

The Project Advance Team thanks everyone for their generous support and participation. We are at 95% of our parish goal, so very close to 100%. Therefore, please continue to send in your pledges and support this important event! You have until Dec. if you want to claim your donation for this income tax year.

REMINDER TO ALL PARISH MINISTRY LEADERS

In preparation for the upcoming Parrish Ministry Fair, your ministry summary and a few digital photos are needed by October 12. Please drop them off at the parish office ASAP or if easier, send to Arda via email: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

SPONSOR A STUDENT

Dear Parishioners, As you all know, parents are required to pay tuition for children attending Catholic schools. By and large, the parents of our children at St. Mary's School and our Catholic High Schools are bearing the burden. Sometimes however, the burden becomes impossible to bear, as for example when a single parent loses his or her employment. When this happens, mercy for the child and our obligation to mutual solidarity in the Church demand that we provide tuition aid.

There are limits however, to the amount of tuition aid that we can provide as a parish. Already, the parish provides a hefty subsidy for Catholic education, especially at St. Mary's and Notre-Dame, to which we are committed as "a feeder-parish".

As a partial solution to this dilemma, I am proposing a system of private sponsoring. If you feel strongly about the benefit of Catholic education, and if you are in a position to help a family that has fallen on hard times and cannot, for a time bear alone the cost of tuition, please let me know. Your identity, as well as that of the family you are helping, will remain confidential.

Next Sunday, Oct. 11/12, we will also have a second collection for Student Aid. Please write your name, address and envelope number as well as Student Aid on the envelope when you bring your donation. You will receive a receipt for income tax. Thank you for considering this proposal. God Bless. Fr. Pierre

THANK YOU - - THIS IS A WONDERFUL COMMUNITY

My children and I would like to extend our deep heartfelt thanks for all the love and support we have received since the loss of my husband Ron. Your cards, caring words of love and sympathy as well as prayers and Masses for him have made the last few weeks easier to bear. Please continue to pray for his soul. God Bless you all. Margherita (Michelle, Antonio, & Nicolas)

PARISH / DIOCESAN NEWS

MASS INTENTIONS AND MASS OFFERINGS

In January of 2008 we advised the parish community that we would be strictly following the Catholic Church's rule regarding mass intentions. A copy of this information is available at the table in the foyer. Recently we have had mass requests left on the altar or put into the collection basket that we could not accommodate because the requested date was not available or in some cases not even specified. These particular requests will be included with the offerings we will receive for the "All Souls Masses" for the first nine days of November. We would also like to advise that there are no spots left for any Mass intentions for this year. Questions? - please contact the parish office and also remember to book all your intention requests with Margherita in the office. Thank you. *Fr. Pierre*

LIFE CHAIN VANCOUVER

Join the Life Chain: Help save moms and babies from the horrors of abortion. **Sunday October 5, 2pm - 3pm**, Oak St, between 25th and 26th Avenue (For St. Mary's Parishioners). "Come to Life Chain; bring your family and friends and spend one hour in prayerful witness". For more info call Pro-Life Group or 604-733-6266.



MASQUERADE BALL: AN ENCHANTED EVENING

On **Oct 25, from 6pm - 11:30pm** let us bedazzle you, your family and friends at St Mary's Masquerade Ball. The enchanted evening promises to be magical and also whet your appetite for good food and music. This unbeatable offer includes 5 appetizers, 2 main courses, 2 desserts, music, dancing, and a chance to win "The Best Costume". Ticket prices are: \$20/adult, \$10/child 7 to 12-yrs-old, and children under 6yrs are FREE. Tickets are on sale now and you can get them from CWL members outside the foyer or contact Kerr on her cell: 778-868-6838 or her email: kerrlt@shaw.ca



MESSAGE FROM THE VOCATIONS OFFICE

Any Single Catholic Man is invited to join us as we continue to explore the gift and call to the priesthood in this new millennium. Meetings are at **St. Andrew's Parish**, 480 East 47th Avenue in Vancouver at **7:30pm on every 1st Sunday** of the month. **Next meeting is this Sunday October 5, 2008.**

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS

WHAT IS A GREAT MARRIAGE?

Presented by: Denis Boyd, registered psychologist. A three-hour workshop offering practical suggestions on how to enrich your relationship. Topics include: attitude, peace with the past, daily talk time, listening, consultation and collaboration, dating and sense of humour, forgiveness, and much more. **Thu. Oct. 16. 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm** at St. John the Apostle, 5457, Trafalgar Street, Vancouver. \$20 per person. Childcare will be available.

WHITE MASS

For all **Healthcare Workers** and families will be celebrated by **Coadjutor Archbishop Miller** at Sts. Peter and Paul : 7:30pm Oct. 17, 2008. Reception follows at Cartier Hall. Info: Judy Talas at 604-430-2712 or drtoniparsons@telus.net (Name *White Mass* comes from the *white coats* worn by physicians, nurses and healthcare workers.) Donations accepted at door to offset costs.

FREEDOM CONFERENCE

The Freedom Conference is coming! **Oct. 17 - 19**, St. Ann's Parish, Abbotsford. Join us for a powerful weekend of inspiring and practical teaching about how we can experience healing and freedom from the things that steal our hope and peace. The Freedom Conference is presented by Jake and Heather Khym of Life Restoration along with their international team of priests, musicians, and speakers. More Info at: www.liferestoration.ca or St. Ann's Religious Education office at 604-852-5602.

ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER CONGRESS 2008 - OCT 18

"*We Are His Message*". Learn, Share and Celebrate the faith, **8:00am - 4:30pm. Keynote speaker: Bishop Gary Gordon** from Whitehorse. **Mass: 9:00am with Archbishop Raymond Roussin**, SM. Immaculate Conception, 8842 - 119th St, Delta.

CARE SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE SEPARATED AND DIVORCED

Women's Group - Begins Monday **Oct. 20**, - 7:00 pm at St. Patrick's Parish, Vancouver: Men's Group - Will start again in Spring 2009. 10 sessions from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Fee: \$50.00 total to be paid at time of registration. Information at Catholic Family Services 604-443-3220

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS—ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER

Sunday, Nov. 23 at 1:00pm: Celebration Mass at GM Place. Each parish will be highlighted during a Grand Procession. Cardinal Marc Ouellet, Archbishop of Quebec, will be the main celebrant and homilist. No cost for tickets. Seating will be organized into parish sections. Sign-up on the sheets in the foyer to reserve your tickets. Anyone interested in singing with the Archdiocesan choir for the Mass should contact Fr. Glenn Dion74 or hrc_rector@shaw.ca for more info.

PARISH INFORMATION

MASSES

Monday & Tuesday: 8:00am
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00am and 7:00pm**
** followed by Adoration at 7:45pm & Benediction at 9:15pm
Saturday: 12:00noon; 5:00pm (**Anticipation**)
Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am, 1:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Sunday: Before all Masses (except 8:00am & 5:00pm) & After all Masses
Saturday: 11:15am to 11:55am, 4:15pm to 4:55pm, 6:10pm to 6:40pm
Weekdays: After ALL Masses (except Thursday Evening Masses)
--- An appointment for confession may be made by phone

HOLY COMMUNION Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

FIRST FRIDAYS: Adoration Throughout the day after Masses

Masses: 8:00am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Benediction: 9:15pm

BAPTISMS: To register your child, contact the Parish Office.

MARRIAGES: One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's. Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to your wedding date and prior to registering for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

Thursdays: 8:00am Saturdays: 12:00noon

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Contact the Parish Office.

PREP: Catechism Program for children attending public schools

TEEN PREP: Interactive Catechism Sessions for Teens

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30 to 8:00pm

E-mail: stmarys.prep@yahoo.ca

ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leader: Joseph D'silva

Email: smyac_team@yahoo.ca

Website: www.smyac.ca

YOUTH MINISTRY (YM)

E-mail: stmarys_ym@yahoo.com

Coordinator: Arda Akoglu

Website: www.saintmarysyouth.com

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Kevin Smith (Principal)

Website: www.stmary.bc.ca

Office Phone: (604) 437-1312

Office Fax: (604) 437-1193

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mondays to Fridays: 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturdays: 11:00am to 2:00pm

Pastor:

Fr. Pierre Leblond, O.P.

Assistant Pastor:

Fr. Mark Hoo, O.P.

Youth Ministry/Volunteer Coordinator:

Arda Akoglu

Parish Secretary:

Margherita Bordignon